

[27th February 1928]

## Weights and Measures

*Report of the committee on weights and measures.*

\* 1551 Q.—Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the committee appointed in connexion with the weights and measures has finished its work; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to lay the report on the table of this House?

A.—(a) The report is expected before the end of February.

(b) The suggestion will be considered on receipt of the report.

## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

### Civil Justice

*Appointment of Muslims to the High Court.*

1552 Q.—BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government have received any memorials from the Madras Presidency Muslim League at any time on the question of appointment of Muslims to the High Court Bench, the Small Causes Court and the Subordinate Judicial Service, and if so, whether the Government will lay on the table copies of such memorials, and the orders of the Government thereon and the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

A.—Certain resolutions were received from the Madras Presidency Muslim League, but the Government are not prepared to publish them. All representations made to Government are considered by them when appointments are made.

### Irrigation

*Repairs to the Kondangi lake.*

1553 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the agriculturists of Cuddalore taluk for repairing the Kondangi lake and making it more useful for irrigation purposes; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

A.—(a) Yes. A copy of the resolutions passed at the Agricultural Conference held at Cuddalore on the 23rd April 1927 was received.

(b) A report was obtained from the Board of Revenue, and a further reference has since been made to it.

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## Magistracy

*Alleged rule directing Subordinate Magistrates to meet Police officers.*

1554 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any rule in the Police Orders directing a Subordinate Magistrate to meet the Superintendents and Deputy Superintendents of Police when they happen to camp in his place;

(b) whether he would be pleased to see that that rule is cancelled;

(c) whether Subordinate Magistrates are called on to explain by the District Magistrate, if any of them failed to meet those officers; and

(d) whether there are any cases in which Subordinate Magistrates were taken to task for disobeying that rule?

A.—(a) & (b) No.

(c) & (d) Government have no information.

## Police

*Conveyance allowances, etc., to Police officials.*

1555 Q.—Mr. M. V. GANGADHARA SIVA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Police ghat talaiyaris are supplied with cumblies and proper clothing, suitable weapons and proper housing; if not, whether the Government propose to make necessary arrangements;

(b) whether it is a fact that conveyance allowances paid to Sub-Inspectors of Police are deducted from the travelling allowance bill; if so, why;

(c) whether it is a fact that some stations are declared horse stations and some are declared cycle stations; if so, why; and

(d) whether District Superintendents of Police have recruited constables from the depressed class as per the hon. the Law Member's promise on 22nd March 1927; if so, how many have been recruited for each district in the Presidency?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Under the existing rules, a Sub-Inspector in receipt of a conveyance allowance, who is required to tour on duty outside the specified area, may draw either conveyance allowance for the days on which such tour is made, or in lieu thereof, travelling allowance under the ordinary rules in respect of the entire tour beyond the specified area, whichever is greater. The question of altering the rules regarding the grant of conveyance allowance to Sub-Inspectors is under consideration.

(c) Yes; the means of conveyance to be used by a Sub-Inspector of Police is determined according to the requirements of the locality.

(d) A statement<sup>a</sup> is annexed showing the number of men from the depressed classes enlisted as constables in each district since the end of June 1927, when District Superintendents of Police were informed of the assurance given by the hon. the Law Member.

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*Applications from depressed classes for the posts in the Police department.*

1556 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of applications received from the candidates belonging to the depressed classes for the post of Sub-Inspector of Police, Inspector of Police, and Deputy Superintendent of Police and the number selected from among them; and

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to issue instructions to the Head of the Police department to give special preference to qualified applicants from the members of the depressed classes for entering the various services in the Police department?

A.—(a) In 1927 three applications for the post of Inspector of Police and twelve for the post of Sub-Inspector were received from candidates belonging to the depressed classes: none of these was found suitable for selection. None applied for the post of Deputy Superintendent of Police.

(b) The Government have asked the Inspector-General of Police and the Commissioner of Police to note for their guidance the assurance given by the hon. the Law Member in the Legislative Council on the 22nd March 1927 as regards the recruitment of depressed classes for the Police.

**Land Assignment***Assignment of the tank-bed in Upparapalli.*

1557 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware that the tank-bed in the villages of Upparapalli and Bojjavaripalli of Proddatur taluk in Cuddapah district has been ordered to be assigned on patta;

(b) whether the Divisional Officer and Tahsildar and the Public Works Department authorities have reported that the said tank-bed should not be assigned as it will affect the interests of the owners of wet lands;

(c) whether the tank was a supplementary source of irrigation to the wet lands and how long that tank has been in existence;

(d) whether the Chepad canal, the main source of irrigation, breached recently, and whether the ryots suffered seriously for want of water as the tank, the only supplementary source, was closed; and

(e) whether the hon. Member will consider the necessity of maintaining the tank without assigning its bed to others?

A.—(a) to (d) The Government have not the information. No representations on the subject have been made to the Government.

(e) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the provisions in Board's Standing Order No. 16. The Government see no necessity to interfere with the Collector's discretion in the matter.



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## Land Revenue

### *Remission of kists in Cuddapah district.*

1558 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any remissions have been granted by the Revenue authorities in the Cuddapah district at the last jamabandi;

(b) if so, what is the amount remitted by the Collector and other officers in their respective areas in which they held jamabandi;

(c) whether any penalty was levied from the several shrotriyamdars of the district;

(d) if so, why;

(e) whether the penalty related to their non-submission of any return prescribed by law;

(f) whether the shrotriyamdars have been submitting such returns in the years previous to the one in which this penalty was levied;

(g) whether such returns were being furnished by the karnams or triune officers at the time of the jamabandi in former years and whether such returns were being accepted without the levy of any penalty for not strictly observing the provisions of law;

(h) whether any notice that the shrotriyamdars should furnish such returns was given to any of them or whether a notification was published in the gazette; and

(i) whether any distinction was made in the matter of giving notice to the shrotriyamdars by issuing notices to some of the shrotriyamdars only personally; if so, why such notices were not given to all the shrotriyamdars in the district?

A.—(a) & (b) A statement<sup>a</sup> showing the season remissions granted in each taluk of the Cuddapah district in fasli 1336 (1926–27) and the officers by whom they were granted is placed on the table.

(c) to (i) The Government have not the information. No complaint or appeal has reached the Government from any shrotriyamdar.

### *Collection of taxes in Madura.*

1559 Q.—Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total demand under land tax and grant tax, i.e., land tax collected on lands granted to individuals on long leases, say, 99 years or so, for the revenue villages of (1) East Madura, (2) West Madura and (3) North Madura;

(b) the total number of land tax and grant tax bills for the revenue villages of (1) East Madura, (2) West Madura and (3) North Madura in the Madura municipality;

(c) the total number of land tax and grant tax bills, which are less than one rupee for each of the abovementioned revenue villages; and

(d) whether the Government will consider the advisability of remitting these small land taxes?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have not the information.

(d) The Government are not aware of any reason why the action suggested should be taken.



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### Loans

*Loan to Mr. B. P. Srinivasulu Nayudu for the purchase of an oil engine, etc*

1560 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is true that one Mr. B. P. Srinivasulu Nayudu of Koduru village, Rajampet taluk, Cuddapah district, has been recommended for a loan of Rs. 4,000 by the Department of Industries for the purchase of an oil engine and pump, etc.;

(b) whether it is also true that the property owned by him which is offered as security was appraised by the Revenue Department for a low price when the property is actually worth very much more;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Department of Industries found his enterprise a good and efficient one so far as the proposed irrigation source is concerned;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Agricultural Department also found it to be a satisfactory one;

(e) who is the officer of the Revenue Department that had the property valued and what is his criterion in valuing it; or whether it was entirely based on the opinion of the lower subordinates of the Revenue Department;

(f) whether the officer has taken into consideration the value of the lands in the vicinity and also the value that any one can offer for the same;

(g) whether the opinion of the officers of the Department of Industries and Agriculture is taken beforehand in the matter of valuation of such lands; if not, why such a procedure is not followed; and

(h) whether the Government will consider the advisability of issuing orders that in such instances the recommendation of the officers of the Industrial and Agricultural departments also should be taken into consideration in fixing the valuation of the lands and property which is offered as security for the loans recommended by the Industrial Department?

A.—(a) to (f) The Government are not aware that the facts are as suggested. No representation on the case has reached the Government.

(g) & (h) The hon. Member is referred to rule III of the Special Rules and Form VI appended thereto in the Madras Takkavi Manual which is available for sale. The Government know of no reason why the procedure prescribed in those rules should be modified.

### Minor Irrigation

*Irrigation of lands in Siddavaram village.*

1561 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the lands in Siddavaram village in the Rajampet taluk of Cuddapah district have been classed as dry; if so, when;

(b) whether those lands have been cultivated with wet crops all along;

(c) whether those lands are irrigated by a river channel;

(d) whether the ryots themselves are repairing that channel under the kudimaramat system;

(e) whether the water-rate levied is not less than that levied under substantial irrigation sources, such as tanks whose repairs are undertaken by the Government;

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(f) whether it is a fact that owing to the absence of a flood bank for the Cheyyar river the river channel gets silted up every time there is a flood in the river;

(g) whether from the water-rate charged the Government is a loser by the lands having been transferred to dry; or whether the Government gets the same amount of tax as it was getting before they were changed into dry;

(h) whether there is any proposal to construct a flood bank near the village for preventing the flood havoc;

(i) if so, when it is likely to be completed;

(j) whether, if there are no such proposals, the Government will be pleased to consider this as an urgent work;

(k) whether the ryots of Siddavaram village have memorialized the authorities to construct the flood bank; and

(l) what orders have been passed thereon?

A.—(a) Yes; at resettlement.

(b), (f), (h) & (i) The Government have not the information.

(c) & (d) The lands are irrigated from a doruvu well.

(e) & (g) The hon. Member's attention is invited to Board's Standing Order No. 1 (7).

(j) The Government know of no reason for taking the action suggested.

(k) & (l) The Government have received no memorial on the subject.

*Repairs to the supply channel to the "Chinna Cheruvu" of Kalasapad village.*

1562 Q.—MR. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the supply channel to the "Chinna Cheruvu" of Kalasapad village of Badvel taluk, Cuddapah district, has fallen into disrepair;

(b) whether the "Cheruvu" received sufficient supply this year;

(c) whether the ryots holding lands thereunder sent in mahazars to the authorities to have the supply channel repaired in time;

(d) whether the ryots were directed to have the channel repaired at their own expense;

(e) whether the channel in question had till now been repaired by Government;

(f) whether there is any, and what reason for directing the ryots to have the channel repaired now, at their own cost;

(g) whether the ryots were not able to raise paddy crop in their lands for insufficiency of water this year;

(h) whether under such circumstances the ryots are entitled to remission under the rules;

(i) whether the Government will issue orders to the Jamabandi officers to grant remissions to the ryots under the circumstances;

(j) whether the supply channel is the source of supply of water for the tanks of the villages of Mavillapalli, Mahanandipalli and Sankavaram villages of Badvel taluk, Cuddapah district;

(k) whether dry crops were raised on the lands of these villages due to insufficiency of water;

(l) what was the quantity of water received in these tanks;

(m) what was the insufficiency of supply due to;

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(n) whether the supply channel was found insufficient in capacity to carry enough of water to the tanks fed by it; and

(o) whether remission will be granted to these ryots also?

A.—(a) to (o) The Government have no information regarding the cases referred to. As it is open to any party aggrieved by any order of the local revenue officers to appeal to the Collector and to the Board of Revenue and as no such action appears to have been taken in this case, the Government do not propose to take the action suggested in the question.

*Repairs to the irrigation tank of Konarajupalli village.*

1563 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the irrigation tank of the village of Konarajupalli in Sidhout taluk of Cuddapah district breached about five years ago;

(b) whether the tank has been repaired till now;

(c) if not, what action has been taken to restore that irrigation source of the village;

(d) whether the villagers sent up memorials to the Collector of Cuddapah to have the tank repaired, if so, with what result; and

(e) whether there is any prospect of the repairs being undertaken, and if so, when?

A.—(a) to (e) The Government have no information on the subject. As the object of the question is doubtless to suggest the repair of the tank, the question and answer will be communicated to the Collector of Cuddapah.

### Secretariat

*Number of Muhammadan Upper Division clerks in the Secretariat.*

1564 Q.—D. K. SYED IBRAHIM SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Muhammadan Upper Division clerks in each department of the Secretariat; and

(b) how many of them are acting and how many of them are permanent (in each department of the Secretariat)?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the establishment lists of the several Secretariat departments, which have been placed in the Council Library.

### Depressed Classes

*Work done by the Depressed Classes Advisory Committee.*

1565 Q.—Mr. M. V. GANGADHARA SIVA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many times the Depressed Classes Advisory Standing Committee of the Legislative Council met up to this time since December 1926; and

(b) the suggestions made by each member of the Committee since December 1926 and the result in each case?



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A.—(a) The present Advisory Committee was constituted in May 1927 and did not meet during 1927. A meeting was held on 26th January.

(b) The Committee's function is to discuss such questions as the hon. the Home Member may refer to it. The agenda for the meeting included the following subjects:—

- (1) The pay and status and control of District Labour Officers.
- (2) Should the functions of the District Labour staff be extended, to any new spheres?
- (3) The improvement of school buildings, the housing of teachers, and their control by the Commissioner.
- (4) The relation of the labouring classes to village panchayats.
- (5) Extension of labour staff to new districts.
- (6) Should the Labour department acquire house-sites, etc., for caste labourers?

*Amount allowed for the depressed classes from provincial contributions.*

1566 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state the amount the Government have set apart or earmarked for the depressed classes from the provincial contributions which the Government of India have been pleased to remit?

A.—A sum of Rs. 60,000 as explained in the note circulated when the supplementary demand under Grant XXVIII was moved, for the extension of the activities of the department to the district of Cuddapah and for the construction of wells.

*Benefits for the depressed classes.*

1567 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state what relief by way of acquiring and allotting house-sites for depressed classes has been given by the present Labour Commissioner since his appointment in July 1927?

A.—The Government have not the statistics asked for and do not propose to call for them.

*Alleged eviction of the Adi-Dravidas of Mettu Cheri from their houses.*

1568 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that Sir George Paddison had given hopes to the residents of Thundu Cheri and Mettu Cheri, Madras, that they would be given permanent house-sites to live in; and

(b) whether it is a fact that after the present Labour Commissioner joined duty, the residents of Mettu Cheri were evicted from their homes by the private landlord and were living actually in the streets with their children and belongings for over a week in the rainy days and that when they approached the present Labour Commissioner for relief, the latter refused to find even temporary accommodation for them?

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A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) The Government understand that the Commissioner addressed the Corporation on behalf of the persons who were evicted.

*Collection of deposits from depressed classes for house-sites.*

1569 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(a) to place on the table a chronological list of amounts of deposits collected from members of depressed classes after giving them hopes that house-sites will be acquired for them, but not followed by any definite proposals for acquisition, in the various districts by the Labour department;

(b) to state whether it is a fact that in Tanjore and South Arcot deposits collected six or seven years ago are still lying idle with the officers of the Labour department; and

(c) whether the Government have received complaints from the members of the depressed classes that they had to pledge their wives' jewels and other movable property for making such deposits?

A.—(a) No. They do not consider it necessary to collect the statistics. It is open to any one aggrieved by delay to address the Commissioner who is paying special attention to this matter.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

*Scholarships given to Christian pupils by the Labour department.*

1570 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the present Labour Commissioner contravenes the provisions of G.O. No. 117, Law (General), dated 12th January 1926;

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to take necessary action to prevent such contravention; and

(c) the number of Christians who are in the hostels under the Labour department, and the number of scholarships awarded by the Labour Commissioner to Christian pupils?

A.—(a) No.

(b) No action is necessary.

(c) No scholarships have been awarded by the Commissioner to Christian pupils. The Government do not know how many there are now in the hostels.

*Utilization of the funds allotted for the depressed classes.*

1571 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the funds of the Labour department asked for and obtained in the name and on behalf of the depressed classes are utilized for running schools entirely for the children of the caste Hindus?

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*Educational advancement of the depressed classes.*

1572 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the present Labour Commissioner is against the advancement of the depressed classes in education beyond the elementary stage; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Honorary Correspondent of the Mustahkhanpet school, Masulipatam, was refused help by the said officer in converting the present elementary school into a secondary school?

A.—(a) No.

(b) No. The Government did not think it necessary to raise the school.

*Collection of subscriptions in Tanjore for welcoming the Labour Commissioner.*

1573 Q.—Rao Sahib L. C. GURUSWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the District Labour Officer, Tanjore, collected subscriptions from the depressed classes in the city with a view to welcome the Commissioner of Labour during his visit to Tanjore; and

(b) if so, how much was collected and how much was spent on the visit?

A.—The Government have no information.

*Alleged preference given to Christian teachers by the Labour Commissioner.*

1574 Q.—Rao Sahib L. C. GURUSWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the previous District Labour Officers, Chingleput, preferred Christian teachers to non-Christian depressed classes teachers; and

(b) if so, what action was taken by the Commissioner of Labour to give effect to G.O. No. 117, Law (General), dated 12th January 1926?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government do not know.

*Construction of wells for the depressed classes in Chingleput district.*

1575 Q.—Rao Sahib L. C. GURUSWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) how much of the supplementary grant voted by the Council on 1st November 1927 for the construction of wells for depressed classes, was allotted to the Chingleput district for the sinking of wells;

(b) how much the original allotment was;

(c) how many wells were proposed to be constructed; and

(d) how many have been finished?

A.—The Government have not the information required.



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*Sinking of a well for the Arundhateyas in Pundi village.*

1576 Q.—Rao Sahib L. C. GURUSWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the District Labour Officer reported three years ago that a well will be sunk in Pundi village in Chingleput district for the Arundhateyas;

(b) whether it is a fact that he took no action in the matter saying that there was already a well for the community in the village;

(c) what action the Government have taken on the inconsistent reports of the District Labour Officer?

A.—(a), (b) & (c). The Government are not aware of any report of the District Labour Officer three years ago. But in January 1927 the then District Labour Officer informed M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami Avargal, that a well would be constructed in the village during 1927-28. He was then under the impression that a well was required for the cheri in the village, but, finding later that there was already a well in the cheri, he dropped the proposal. He subsequently discovered, however, that what Mr. Guruswami wanted was a well for the locality inhabited by the Arundhateyas and not for the cheri. The mistake was rectified and the construction of a well for the Arundhateyas has since been sanctioned. The District Labour Officer responsible for the mistake has now been replaced by another and the Government do not propose to take any action in the matter.

**Forest Panchayats***Administration of forest panchayats.*

1577 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many forest panchayats have been formed till now in the Presidency;

(b) whether there is any proposal to place these panchayats under the control of the District Revenue authorities;

(c) whether the Government have framed any rules for the administration of these panchayats, if so, whether they will be pleased to place them on the table of the House;

(d) whether the Government contemplate to bring in a legislative measure for regulating the working of these panchayats;

(e) whether any Bill is prepared for the purpose, if so, whether the Government will be pleased to lay it also on the table of the House;

(f) how many such forest panchayats have been formed in the Ceded districts till now and what are the conditions that govern those panchayats; whether there are any differences in the agreements entered into by the panchayat members in respect of any panchayats in the Ceded districts;

(g) what is the principle on which the panchayatdars are made to pay yearly rental amount and who is the officer that fixes such amounts;

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(h) what are the powers of the panchayatdars in respect of any offences committed in panchayat forests; and

(i) whether the panchayatdars are selected by the authorities or whether they are elected by the villagers?

A.—(a) 1,155.

(b) Orders have been issued entrusting to the District Collectors the duty of supervising, subject to the general control of the Board of Revenue, the work of the forest panchayats.

(c) No.

(d) & (e) The Government do not contemplate such a legislative measure.

(f) Kurnool	...	...	...	...	...	33
Cuddapah	...	...	...	...	...	68
Bellary	...	...	...	...	...	130
Anantapur	...	...	...	...	...	113

A copy of the standard form of agreement governing the panchayats is attached. No separate form has been prescribed for the Ceded districts; but the terms of the agreement may be modified according to local circumstances.

(g) The receipts from grazing and other fees and the expenses of management such as watchers' pay and contingencies are estimated. A portion of the difference between these two amounts is allotted to the panchayat for effecting improvements in the forest and the balance constitutes the rental. The amount of the rental is fixed by the Board of Revenue.

(h) The hon. Member's attention is invited to clause 10 (viii) in the form of agreement attached.

(i) By the cattle-owners of the villages subject in the past to the approval of the Forest Panchayat Officer and in the future to the approval of the Revenue Divisional Officer.

*Issue of permits for felling fuel in unreserves.*

1578 Q.—MR. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that people in Cuddapah district are required to take permits for felling fuel in the unreserves;

(b) whether it is a fact that such applications are required to be stamped with a court-fee stamp;

(c) what is the value of stamp required for such application;

(d) what is the provision of law for enforcing such application to be stamped;

(e) if there be no provision, whether the Government will issue orders not to enforce the levying of stamp fee on such applications;

(f) since how long this fee has been levied;

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- (g) who is the officer that is authorized to sanction such application ;
- (h) what is the quantity of fuel that can be sanctioned on an application ;
- (i) whether such applications are confined to dry wood alone ; and
- (j) whether there are unreserves in which dry wood is available sufficient for the consumption of the village which abuts such unreserves ?

A.—(a) Under rule 9 of the rules framed under section 26 of the Madras Forest Act permits are not required for felling fuel for agricultural or domestic purposes but are required for felling fuel for other purposes. The Government are not aware that the fact is as suggested.

(b) to (f) Applications for permits are exempt from the payment of court fees under section 19 (xix) of the Court Fees Act.

(g) The Forest Officer or any officer duly authorized by the Collector.

(h) The officer issuing the permit has discretion to fix the quantity.

(i) Applications need not be restricted to dry wood.

(j) The Government have not the information.

### Labour

*Appointment of Mr. P. V. Gopalan as District Labour Officer.*

1579 Q.—MR. M. V. GANGADHARA SIVA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. P. V. Gopalan, the Honorary District Labour Officer, has been confirmed in the post as a paid officer; and if so, whether a copy of his application will be placed on the table;

(b) whether there are any other candidates for the post; and if so, who they are and what are their individual qualifications;

(c) what are Mr. Gopalan's qualifications—educational and otherwise; whether the Collector of Malabar has reported to the Commissioner of Labour that his qualifications are insufficient; and if so, what is his report and what the Government are doing in that matter;

(d) whether Government have received any representation from the depressed classes of Malabar pointing out his irregularities; and if so, what they are and what the Government have done in the matter;

(e) how many individuals were appointed by him as peons and how many of them have left service and for what reasons; and

(f) how many schools are now run by the Labour department in Malabar and how many co-operative societies were started?

A.—(a) Mr. Gopalan's position is still that of an honorary officer: he has applied for pay and the question is under consideration. The Government are not prepared to put his application on the table.

(b) The Government are not aware of any.

(c) The Government have no particular information about Mr. Gopalan's educational qualifications; the Collector does not consider that his general qualifications are insufficient.

(d) No.



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(e) The Government have no information.

(f) Last year the number of schools was 13, and of co-operative societies 10.

*Labour strikes settled by the present Labour Commissioner.*

1580 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table a list of labour strikes settled by the present Labour Commissioner after his appointment; and

(b) what conciliatory measures he adopted in the Coimbatore strikes and in the strike in Messrs. Massey & Co., Madras?

A.—(a) No.

(b) None.

*District experience of the present Labour Commissioner.*

1581 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state what experience in the Revenue department in the mufassal, the present Labour Commissioner has?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the History of Services of Gazetted Officers.

*Alleged discontent towards the present Labour Commissioner.*

1582 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the resolution passed at the Eleventh Conference of the Provincial Adi-Dravida Mahajana Sabha held on Sunday the 8th January 1928, in Madras with reference to the general discontent and dissatisfaction expressed by the community towards the present Labour Commissioner; and

(b) what action the Government propose to take to bring the work of the department on a line with the policy and procedure laid down by Sir George Paddison?

A.—(a) The Government have received a copy of the resolutions passed at the meeting.

(b) None—there has been no change of policy.

*Evidence given by the Labour Commissioner before the Co-operative Committee.*

1583 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the present Labour Commissioner gave evidence before the Co-operation Committee that the extension of the activities of the Labour department in any new district must be preceded by the closure of activities in another district; and

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(b) whether it is a fact that the said officer in his evidence before the said Committee advocated the handing over of all depressed classes societies including even those organized by the late Sir George Paddison to the Co-operative department?

A.—The Government have not yet seen the evidence.

*Extension of the activities of the Labour department.*

1584 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is proposed to extend the activities of the Labour department to such suitable and needy districts like Coimbatore, Salem, Tinnevely, Ramnad, Madura, Chittoor, Ganjam and Vizagapatam; and

(b) if not, why not?

A.—(a) Not at present.

(b) The department has its hands full.

*Alleged benefits conferred on the caste agricultural labourers by the Labour department.*

1585 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Labour Commissioner has ordered the acquisition of house-sites for and the grant of other benefits similar to those conferred on the depressed classes by the department on the caste agricultural labourers who suffer under no social disability, and for whom the special department was not constituted?

A.—The policy of the department has been, and is, to acquire house-sites, etc., for caste labourers in special cases when circumstances require it. The Labour department was not constituted exclusively for the benefit of non-caste labourers.

## Education

*Primary and elementary schools for girls in South Arcot district.*

1586 Q.—BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of primary, elementary and secondary schools solely intended for Muslims and the places where they are located in the district of South Arcot, and which of them are (a) maintained by Government, (b) maintained by the local and municipal bodies and (c) managed by private agencies;

(b) the amount of money spent (1) by Government alone (a) in the shape of maintenance costs, (b) in the shape of grants and stipends, etc., and (2) by the local and municipal bodies in each of the last five years;

(c) the amount of money spent (1) by the Government and (2) by local and municipal bodies on education of communities other than Muslims in the district of South Arcot in each of the last five years;

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(d) the percentage of school-going population among the Muslim community in South Arcot district as compared with the other communities such as the Christian and the Hindu during the last five years; and

(e) whether the Government will be pleased to provide the local and municipal bodies with larger funds for education, especially of the Muslim community in South Arcot?

A.—(a), (b), (c) & (d) The information, as far as available, is furnished in the statements <sup>a</sup> appended.

(e) The Government cannot give a general undertaking to provide more funds. If any of the local bodies in the South Arcot district apply for grants for specific purposes, their applications will be considered on merits.

*Construction of a school building for the high school at Nandalur.*

1587 Q.—MR. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the President, District Board, Cuddapah, has sent any proposal for the construction of a school building for the high school at Nandalur, Cuddapah district;

(b) whether in view of the answer to my question No. 417, dated 19th March 1927, regarding the construction of a building both for the above school and a hostel thereto, the Government will remind the President, District Board, for submitting any proposal for the purpose;

(c) whether the authorities who visited the school have remarked that the building is most unsuited for locating a high school and is situated in an undesirable and insanitary locality;

(d) whether the present hostel building is too small for the boarders and the boarders are made to shift for themselves for want of proper accommodation; and

(e) whether the Government propose to provide substantial buildings for both the school and the hostel by making due provision in the next budget?

A.—(a) No proposal with plans and estimates has been received from the President, District Board, Cuddapah, for the construction of a building for the Board High School, Nandalur.

(b) & (e) It is for the District Board to take the necessary steps to provide suitable buildings for the school and the hostel. From the administration report of the District Board for 1926-27, it is observed that an estimate for a new building for the school according to the type-design is under revision by the District Board Engineer and that the building in which the hostel is located has been purchased by the District Board at a cost of Rs. 4,060.

(c) & (d) The Government have no information.



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*Grant of concessions to students in Nandalur High School.*

1588 Q.—MR. A. PARASURAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the half-fee concession granted under rule 92 of the Madras Educational Rules was given to any of the students calling themselves "Telaga" men in the High School of Nandalur, Cuddapah district ;

(b) whether there are any Baliyas in Cuddapah who are styled as "Rajamahendravaram Baliyas" ;

(c) whether the people of such castes migrated from Rajahmundry, and if so, whether there is any connexion between the Telagas of Northern Circars and these people ;

(d) whether the fee concessions that were being granted to Telaga students of Nandalur High School were withdrawn and if so, under what circumstances ;

(e) for how long they have been enjoying the concession ;

(f) whether by such withdrawal the strength of the school has been affected ;

(g) whether the Government have made any enquiries regarding the origin of Rajamahendravaram Baliyas and if so, with what results ;

(h) if not, whether the Government will now enquire into the matter by addressing the Collectors of the Ceded districts ; and

(i) whether the Government will so amend the Appendix 17-A of the Madras Educational Rules as to include the caste of Rajamahendravaram Baliyas in the list of depressed classes ?

A.—(a) to (f) The Government have no information. A report will be called for.

(g), (h) & (i) The suggestions will be considered.

*Opening of a high school for girls at Cocanada.*

1589 Q.—MR. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government received resolutions from the Cocanada Municipal Council requesting that a high school for girls may be started at Cocanada ;

(b) whether the Government offered to open a middle school for girls instead ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the conversion of the present higher elementary school for girls at Suryaraopeta into a middle school as requested by the municipal council would avoid the necessity for the Government's contribution to a separate middle school ; and

(d) whether in view of the large school-going population of girls in the place the Government would be pleased to convert the existing higher elementary school at least into a middle school for the present ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b), (c) & (d) The Government were prepared to contribute one-half of the cost of maintaining a middle school for girls at Cocanada and enquired whether the Council was willing to meet from its own funds the other half of the cost of converting the higher elementary school at Suryaraopeta into a middle school.

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The Council did not accept this proposal. It has asked that the entire cost should be met by Government. This request is under consideration.

### Local Boards

*Construction of a road from Tandrampet road to Rayandram village.*

1590 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the District Board, North Arcot, have sanctioned the construction of a road from Tandrampet road to Rayandram village ;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a cart-track in existence for a long time and whether by that route the distance is only five miles, whereas the proposed road is nine miles long ;

(c) whether the ryots protested against this waste of public funds and also that the proposed road is roundabout ;

(d) whether the work was stopped more than two years ago and whether about one thousand rupees had already been spent on it ; and

(e) whether Government will enquire into the matter ?

A.—(a) No. The Tiruvannamalai Taluk Board has sanctioned an estimate for Rs. 1,000 to improve the cart-track from Tandrampet to Thenmudianur, a village between Tandrampet and Rayandram.

(b) The distance between Tandrampet and Thenmudianur is only three miles along the existing cart-track which is being improved.

(c) The ryots of Thenmudianur wanted the road to be taken along the tank bund of the village but the proposal was not found feasible owing to the miry nature of the ground and the heavier cost involved.

(d) The work of improving the cart-track is proceeding and Rs. 670 have so far been incurred on it against an estimate of Rs. 1,000.

(e) The Government see no need to make any enquiry in the matter.

*Number of wells dug and schools started for the depressed classes since 1925.*

1591 Q.—Mr. M. V. GANGADHARA SIVA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state —

(a) the number of wells dug and schools started for the depressed classes at the cost of the district and taluk boards of the Ceded districts since January 1925 ; and

(b) how many depressed class teachers have been appointed in the non-depressed class schools and how many depressed class boys and girls have been admitted in such schools since January 1925 ?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

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*Nomination of depressed classes to municipal councils and local boards.*

1592 Q.—Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of nominated depressed classes members in the various municipal councils, district, taluk and union boards, who ceased to be members of these bodies due to the expiry of their terms and other causes from 1st January to 30th September 1927;

(b) whether all such vacancies were again filled up by members drawn from the depressed classes; if not, how many were from depressed classes and how many from other communities; and

(c) the reasons for nominating members other than depressed classes for such vacancies?

A.—(a) & (b) The information required in respect of municipal councils and district boards is given below:—

	Number of seats vacated by members of depressed classes.	Number filled by members of depressed classes.	Number vacant.
Municipal councils ...	44	35	9
District boards ..	13	10	3

The Government have no information regarding the nominations made to the taluk and union boards. Under clauses (b) and (c) of sub-section (4) of section 9 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, members of taluk and union boards are appointed by the presidents of the district and taluk boards respectively.

(c) No such nominations have been made.

*Exclusion of an Adi-Dravida member from the Pattukkottai Taluk Board meeting.*

1593 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in December 1927, a meeting of the Taluk Board of Pattukkottai was held in the premises of the President of the Board and that Mr. Marimuthu, a member, was excluded from the deliberations of the meeting; and

(b) whether they will be pleased to take action in the matter immediately and see that such highhandedness on the part of the said President is put an end to?

A.—(a) The Government have no official information on the subject, but they have received a representation from the Adi-Dravida Central Sabha containing the allegation.

(b) The Government will take such action as may be necessary after enquiry.

**Excise***Qualifications of Inspectors, etc., in the Excise Department.*

1594 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any qualification fixed for (a) inspectors, (b) sub-inspectors, (c) Deputy Commissioners in the Excise Department, and if so, what is the minimum qualification;



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(b) whether there are any now in the service who have not got the required qualification; if so, in which grade;

(c) if there are any without the required qualification, whether they were exempted and why; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the Revenue Board calls on the Subordinate Magistrates for explanation in abkari cases in which they acquit the accused?

A.—(a) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to clause (d) of question No. 2244 on 17th July 1926 concerning the minimum qualifications of candidates for appointment as Sub-Inspectors of Excise. No additional qualifications have been prescribed for Inspectors. There are no Deputy Commissioners in the Excise department.

(b) & (c) The hon. Member is referred to the half-yearly and quarterly establishment lists of the officers of the Excise department, copies of which have been placed in the Legislative Council Library. The collection of information as to the actual reasons for which the exemption was granted in each case would involve an amount of labour which the Government do not consider they would be justified in undertaking.

(d) The Government are not aware that the fact is as suggested.

## Public Health

### *Introduction of a Bill to amend the Lepers Act.*

1595 Q.—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) in what respects the present Lepers Act of 1898, as amended by subsequent Acts, has been found defective for dealing with lepers;

(b) whether this Government have brought these defects to the notice of the Government of India and, if so, when; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce a Bill to amend the Lepers Act in the local legislature?

A.—(a) The respect in which the Indian Lepers Act of 1898 as amended by subsequent Acts has been found defective is exhibited in its declared object, i.e., "An Act to provide for the segregation and medical treatment of pauper lepers, etc." Pauper lepers as defined under the Act are almost invariably in the advanced burnt-out stage of the disease when they are no longer a serious danger to the public health. Segregation of such lepers will not reduce the infection or check the spread of the disease. The spread of the disease is due to the very much larger number of lepers in the early stages of the disease who can still carry out their normal avocations. It is difficult for any but a skilled medical officer to detect and isolate the early cases and the policy of the Government is to provide centres for their diagnosis and treatment. As the number of such cases is very large, the policy cannot be covered by legislation at present.

(b) & (c) No.